

# North Carolina State Board of Elections Budget Overview

**Joint Appropriations Subcommittee for General Government**

**March 7, 2013**



**FISCAL RESEARCH DIVISION**  
A Staff Agency of the North Carolina General Assembly

# North Carolina State Board of Elections

## Presentation Outline

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- Recent Legislative Actions

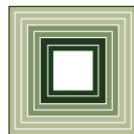
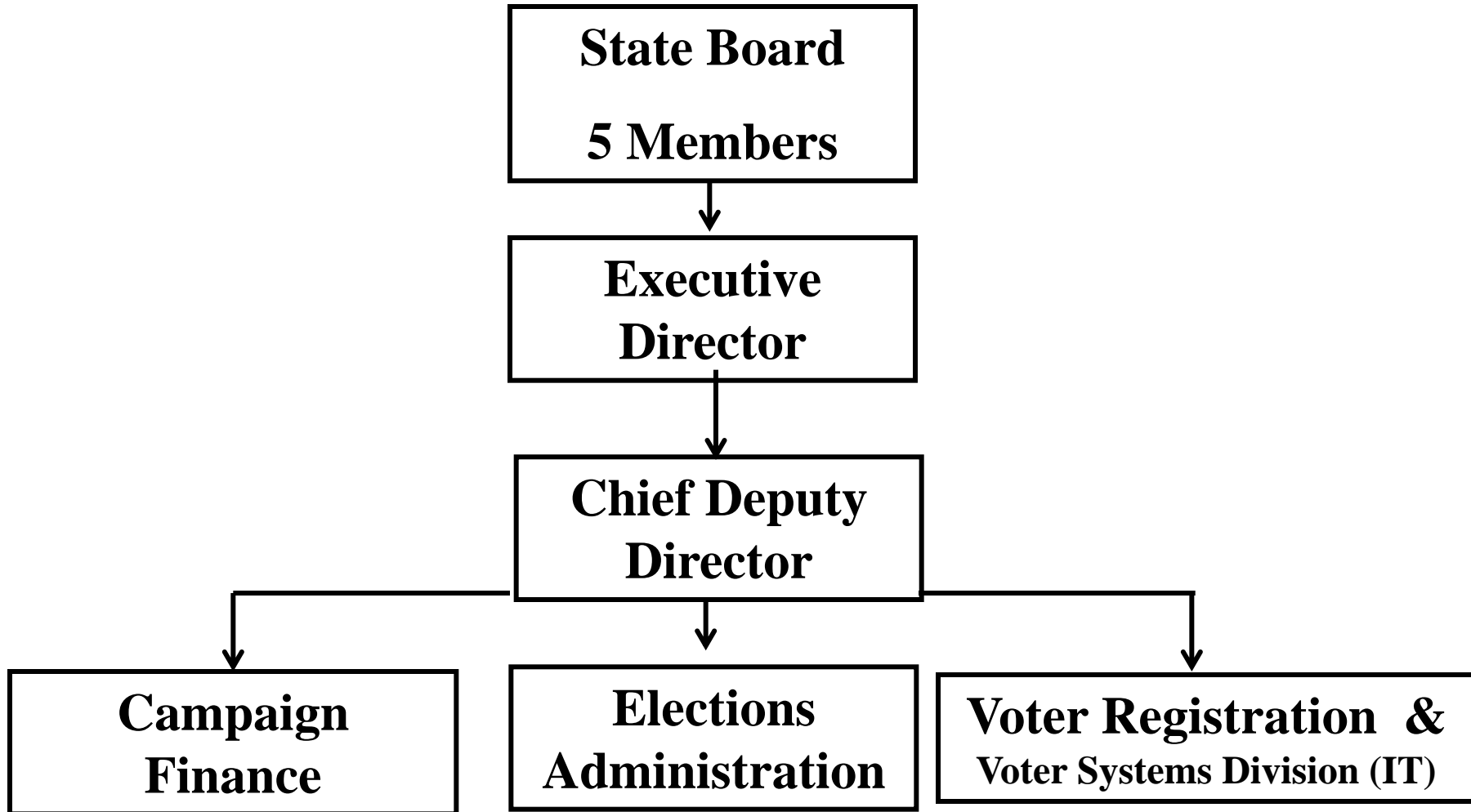
# North Carolina State Board of Elections

## Mission

- Promote Confidence among the citizens of North Carolina in the integrity of the free election process through the consistent administration and equal application of all elections and campaign finance laws, rules, and regulations.

# North Carolina State Board of Elections

## Organizational Chart



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# North Carolina State Board of Elections

## Authorizing Laws

- GS 123-68
- The State Board of Elections shall be and remain an independent regulatory and quasi-judicial agency and shall not be placed within any principal administrative department. The State Board of Elections shall exercise its statutory powers, duties, functions, authority, and shall have all powers and duties conferred upon the heads of principal departments under G.S. 143B-10. (1973, c. 1409, s. 2.)
- GS 163-19
  - Membership = 5 Registered Voters
  - Appointed by the Governor to four year terms

# North Carolina State Board of Elections

## Board Member Compensation

- \$15/day when meeting is required (GS 138-5(a)(a))
- Travel Subsistence
  - Mileage, Lodging, and Per diem allowance for meals

Mileage	.565/mile
Breakfast	\$8.00
Lunch	\$10.45
Dinner	\$17.90
Lodging	\$63.90



# North Carolina State Board of Elections

## Authorizing Laws

- GS 163-22 – Powers and Duties of State Board of Elections
  - Appoint the Executive Director (term of 4 years)
  - General Supervision over primaries and elections
  - Produce copies of all election laws and Board rules
  - Appoint all members of county boards of elections
  - Remove county boards of elections members if necessary
  - May investigate the administration of election laws
  - Determine ballot contents, styles, instruction sheets, poll books, etc. and require County BOEs to purchase necessary forms
  - Prepare and distribute ballots, supervise local ballots
  - Certify the names of candidates to be on local ballots
  - Certify and declare the results
- GS 163-82.11&12
  - Statewide Voter Database and maintain individual county's list

# North Carolina State Board of Elections

## Authorizing Laws – County Boards of Elections

- GS 163-30
  - Each county has a board comprised of 3 members, registered voters
  - 2 year terms
  - Recommended by the State Chairpersons of each political party
  - Appointed by the State Board of Elections



# North Carolina State Board of Elections

## Authorizing Laws – County Boards of Elections

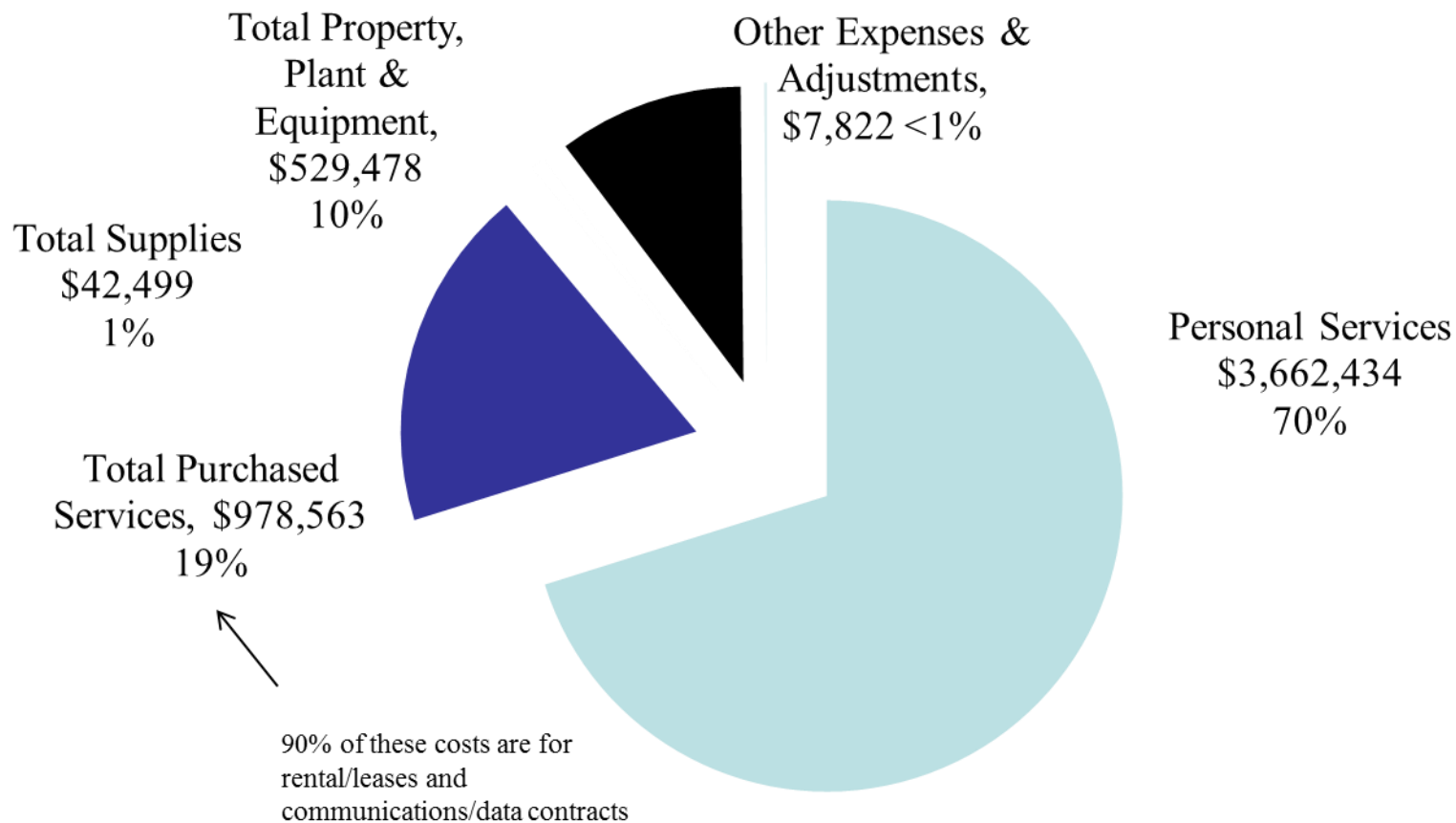
- GS 163-33 Powers and Duties of County Boards of Elections
  - Create rules for guidance of elections
  - Appoint all chief judges, judges, assistants, and other officers of elections
  - Investigate irregularities or nonperformance of duties by election officials
  - Establish election precincts
  - Provide the ballots, supplies, and distribution to the voting places
  - Issue all notices regarding elections
  - Appoint and remove personnel
  - Counties fund the cost of elections, personnel, equipment and maintenance of equipment, election day poll workers, and other costs associated with administration of elections
  - Campaign finance review

# State Board of Elections Budget

	FY 2010-11 Actual Budget	FY 2011-12 Actual Budget	FY 2012-13 Certified Budget	FY 2013-14 Proposed Continuation Budget	FY 2014-15 Proposed Continuation Budget
Requirements	\$6,581,704	\$6,225,311	\$5,310,321	\$5,375,321	\$5,375,321
Receipts	\$791,218	\$1,527,808*	\$96,876	\$161,876	\$161,876
Appropriations	\$5,790,486	\$4,697,503	\$5,213,445	\$5,213,445	\$5,213,445
FTEs	65	51	51	53	53

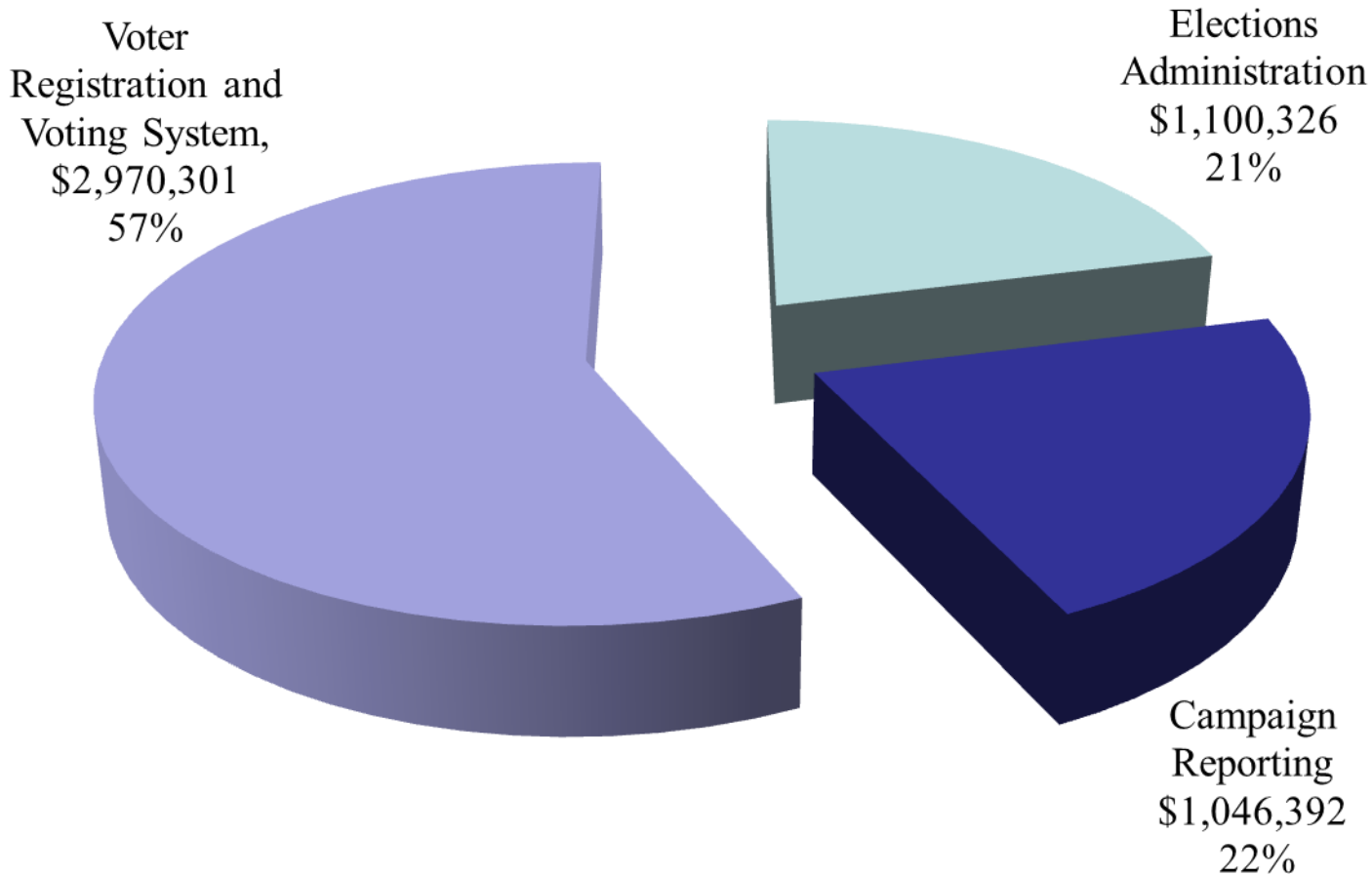
\*Included \$1.3 million in carryforward from FY 2010-11

# State Board of Elections Budget Composition Certified Budget 2012-13



# State Board of Elections

## Total by Division, Certified Budget 2012-13



# State Board of Elections

	FY 2012-13 Certified Budget
Requirements	\$1,100,326
Receipts	\$37,000
Appropriations	\$1,063,326
FTEs	8

- Elections Administration Division
  - Supervise all elections
  - Appoint, train, and supervise election officials
  - Supervise appointment and training of local election officials
    - Create training videos that counties may use in their training efforts
  - Investigate administration of election laws, fraud and irregularities in elections

# State Board of Elections

## Elections Administration Division - Training

- Mandatory State Board Training Seminars
  - 400 County Election Officials trained annually
- Trained in person over 1,400 individuals during FY 2012-13
- New Director's Training Class
- County Board of Elections Staff Training
- Refresher Training Sessions for Staff
  - Statewide Election Information Management System
  - General Election Matters
- Webinars
  - Campaign Finance
  - Other Specific Subject Matter Sessions
- Training is supplemented by the North Carolina Association of Directors of Elections

# State Board of Elections

- Voter Registration and Voter Systems Division (IT)

- Maintain the statewide voter database

- Statewide Election Information Management System (SEIMS)
    - 6,624,672 Registered Voters as of January, 2013
  - Provide voter information to County Boards of Elections
  - Maintain SBOE's website
  - Support the campaign finance reporting systems

	FY 2012-13 Certified Budget
Requirements	\$2,970,301
Receipts	\$0
Appropriations	\$2,970,301
FTEs	29

# State Board of Elections

- Campaign Finance Division
  - Oversee the campaign disclosures of money spent for political activities
  - Supervise campaign reporting in county boards of elections
  - Audit candidates' and political committee required reports (statewide and district offices)
  - Investigate claims of violation of campaign finance laws
    - Conduct hearings when necessary
    - Issues findings/determinations
  - Administer the Public Campaign Fund

	FY 2012-13 Certified Budget
Requirements	\$1,150,169
Receipts	\$57,193
Appropriations	\$1,092,976
FTEs	13



# State Board of Elections

## Special Funds

- Help America Vote Act, Title I
- Help America Vote Act, Title II
- NC Public Campaign Finance Fund
- NC Voter Owned Elections
- NC Political Party Fund and Presidential Election year Fund

# State Board of Elections

## Help America Vote Act of 2002

- Federal law established new minimum standards for states to follow in administration of elections
  - Allowing provisional ballots
  - Dissemination of voting information
  - Required updated voting equipment
  - Established voter identification procedures
  - Administrative Complaint Procedures
- Created the Election Assistance Commission
  - Oversee the \$3.65 billion for states to implement the law

# State Board of Elections

## Help America Vote Act (HAVA) Funds

- Title I, Balance Approximately \$400,000
  - Ballot coding, barcode scanning, technical support, printers, training, replacement of State Election Information Management System (SEIMS) infrastructure
- Title II, Balance \$4,071,740.16
  - Received \$73.4 million
  - Maintain a centralized voter registration database, education, training, purchase voting equipment, development of procedures for provisional voting, etc.
  - Maintenance of Effort requirement of an additional appropriation of approx. \$390,871 in order to spend \$4 million remaining balance

# State Board of Elections Special Funds

- Public Campaign Finance Fund GS 163-278.61

- Taxpayer designates, \$50 attorney fees, and voluntary contributions; check box for \$3

**N.C. Public Campaign Fund N.C.**

Mark 'Yes' if you want to designate \$3 of taxes to this special Fund for voter education materials and for candidates who accept spending limits.

- Candidates for State Judicial Offices – Supreme Court and Court of Appeals
  - Restrictions on fund-raising and spending limits
- Production and Mailing of a Voter Information Guide
- Balance = \$7.6 million

# State Board of Elections

## NC Political Party Fund and Presidential Election year Fund

- GS 163-278.41
- Taxpayer designates (\$3 check-off, with ½ funds going to Political Party Fund and ½ going to Presidential Election Year Fund)

### **N.C. Public Campaign Fund N.C. Political Parties Financing Fund**

Mark 'Yes' if you want to designate \$3 of taxes to this special Fund for voter education materials and for candidates who accept spending limits. Marking 'Yes' does not change your tax or refund

- Money is given to political parties
- NC Political Party Fund
  - Balance = \$55,231
- Presidential Election Year Fund
  - Balance = \$586

# State Board of Elections Special Funds

- Voter Owned Elections GS 163-278.95
  - General Assembly Funded
  - Candidates for State Auditor, Commissioner of Insurance, and Superintendent of Public Instruction
  - Balance = \$ .13

# State Board of Elections

## Recent Legislative Actions

- SL 2011-145, Committee Report on the Continuation, Expansion, and Capital Budgets
  - Administrative Reductions (\$68,000)
    - Workshops and conferences
    - Other administrative functions
  - Elimination of 4 vacant FTE positions (\$235,171)
    - Elections Investigator, Business Officer, Compliance Specialist, Attorney II
  - Elimination of 10 FTE Positions (\$637,706)
    - 8 District Elections Technicians, Voting Systems Project Manager, Technology Support Analyst
- SL 2012-142, Committee Report on the Continuation, Expansion, and Capital Budgets
  - Management Flexibility Reduction (\$102,532)

# State Board of Elections

Questions?